

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44*bis*)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FA04-403PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/000564	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22 January 2004 (22.01.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 31 January 2003 (31.01.2003)]
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC 7 B01J 20/20		
Applicant JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 *bis*.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44*bis*.3(c) and 93*bis*.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44*bis* .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Date of issuance of this report 02 September 2005 (02.09.2005)
Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Masashi Honda</div>
Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 10	

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Translation

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

<p>To:</p>	<p>Date of mailing (day/month/year) 27-04-2004</p>
<p>Applicant's or agent's file reference FA04-403PCT</p>	<p>FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below</p>
<p>International application No. PCT/JP2004/000564</p>	<p>International filing date (day/month/year) 22-01-2004</p>
<p>Priority date (day/month/year) 31-01-2003</p>	
<p>International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B01J 20/20</p>	
<p>Applicant JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY</p>	

1.	<p>This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 20%;">Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the opinion</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the opinion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application																							
2.	<p>FURTHER ACTION</p> <p>If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.</p> <p>If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.</p> <p>For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.</p>																								
3.	<p>For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.</p>																								

<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP</p>	<p>Date of completion of this opinion</p>	<p>Authorized officer</p>
<p>Facsimile No.</p>	<p>Telephone No.</p>	

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/000564

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - ☐ the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - ☐ the translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 - ☐ on paper
 - ☐ in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/000564

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 6	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 6	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 6	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

A hydrogen storage material characterized by being provided with a first region principally composed of amorphous carbon and containing one of Ti, Zr, Hf, and Y, and a second region principally composed of amorphous carbon having a lower density than the first region, is not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the international search report, nor would it be obvious to a person skilled in the art; thus, claims 1 to 6 are novel, involve an inventive step, and are industrially applicable.

特許協力条約

発信人 日本国特許庁 (国際調査機関)

出願人代理人

下田 昭

様

あて名

〒 104-0031

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京橋日栄ビル 4階

REC'D 29 APR 2004

PCT

国際調査機関の報告書
(法施行規則第40条の2)
[PCT規則43の2.1]

PCT

発送日
(日.月.年)

27. 4. 2004

出願人又は代理人
の書類記号

FA04-403PCT

今後の手続きについては、下記2を参照すること。

国際出願番号

PCT/JP2004/000564

国際出願日

(日.月.年) 22. 01. 2004

優先日

(日.月.年) 31. 01. 2003

国際特許分類 (IPC)

Int. Cl⁷ B01J20/20

出願人 (氏名又は名称)

独立行政法人 科学技術振興機構

1. この見解書は次の内容を含む。

- ☒ 第I欄 見解の基礎
- ☐ 第II欄 優先権
- ☐ 第III欄 新規性、進歩性又は産業上の利用可能性についての見解の不作成
- ☐ 第IV欄 発明の単一性の欠如
- ☒ 第V欄 PCT規則43の2.1(a)(i)に規定する新規性、進歩性又は産業上の利用可能性についての見解、それを裏付けるための文献及び説明
- ☐ 第VI欄 ある種の引用文献
- ☐ 第VII欄 国際出願の不備
- ☐ 第VIII欄 国際出願に対する意見

2. 今後の手続き

国際予備審査の請求がされた場合は、出願人がこの国際調査機関とは異なる国際予備審査機関を選択し、かつ、その国際予備審査機関がPCT規則66.1の2(b)の規定に基づいて国際調査機関の見解書を国際予備審査機関の見解書とみなさない旨を国際事務局に通知していた場合を除いて、この見解書は国際予備審査機関の最初の見解書とみなされる。

この見解書が上記のように国際予備審査機関の見解書とみなされる場合、様式PCT/ISA/220を送付した日から3月又は優先日から22月のうちいずれか遅く満了する期限が経過するまでに、出願人は国際予備審査機関に、適当な場合は補正書とともに、答弁書を提出することができる。

さらなる選択肢は、様式PCT/ISA/220を参照すること。

3. さらなる詳細は、様式PCT/ISA/220の備考を参照すること。

見解書を作成した日

07. 04. 2004

名称及びあて先

日本国特許庁 (ISA/JP)
郵便番号100-8915
東京都千代田区霞が関三丁目4番3号

特許庁審査官 (権限のある職員)
新居田 知生

4Q 8618

電話番号 03-3581-1101 内線 3466

様式PCT/ISA/237 (表紙) (2004年1月)

第 I 欄 見解の基礎

1. この見解書は、下記に示す場合を除くほか、国際出願の言語を基礎として作成された。

- ☐ この見解書は、_____ 語による翻訳文を基礎として作成した。
それは国際調査のために提出された PCT 規則 12.3 及び 23.1(b) にいう翻訳文の言語である。

2. この国際出願で開示されかつ請求の範囲に係る発明に不可欠なヌクレオチド又はアミノ酸配列に関して、以下に基づき見解書を作成した。

a. タイプ ☐ 配列表

☐ 配列表に関連するテーブル

b. フォーマット ☐ 書面

☐ コンピュータ読み取り可能な形式

c. 提出時期 ☐ 出願時の国際出願に含まれる

☐ この国際出願と共にコンピュータ読み取り可能な形式により提出された

☐ 出願後に、調査のために、この国際調査機関に提出された

3. ☐ さらに、配列表又は配列表に関連するテーブルを提出した場合に、出願後に提出した配列若しくは追加して提出した配列が出願時に提出した配列と同一である旨、又は、出願時の開示を超える事項を含まない旨の陳述書の提出があった。

4. 補足意見：

第V欄 新規性、進歩性又は産業上の利用可能性についてのPCT規則43の2.1(a)(i)に定める見解、
それを裏付ける文献及び説明

1. 見解

新規性 (N)

請求の範囲

1-6

有

請求の範囲

無

進歩性 (IS)

請求の範囲

1-6

有

請求の範囲

無

産業上の利用可能性 (IA)

請求の範囲

1-6

有

請求の範囲

無

2. 文献及び説明

Ti, Zr, Hf, Yのいずれかを含む非晶質炭素を主体とする第1領域と、それよりも低密度の非晶質炭素を主体とする第2領域とを有する水素吸蔵材料は、国際調査報告に列記されたいずれの文献にも記載されておらず、また当業者にとって自明でもないから、請求の範囲1-6は、新規性、進歩性及び産業上の利用可能性を有する。